

Sharing

Sometimes when you share something...

- you end up with less
 - Money
- you end up with more
 - Joy
 - When do people want to share their joy?

**What if sharing our joy in Jesus
increases our joy in Jesus?**

1

To all peoples...

Luke 24:36–53



bib.ly/Lu24.NIV
tiny.cc/cmchandouts

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Luke

- Luke learned from “those who from the first were **eyewitnesses and servants of the word**...to write an orderly account...so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.”
- In Luke 24, we read of...
 - people who saw the empty tomb and angels, then they saw Jesus
 - **eyewitnesses**
 - Jesus gave them a message to be proclaimed to all the peoples of the world
 - **servants of the word**
 - **Luke learned from them what to tell us**

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Luke 24:36-43

³⁶ While they were still talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

³⁷ They were **startled and frightened**, thinking they saw a ghost.

³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you **troubled**, and why do **doubts** rise in your minds? ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet. It is I myself! Touch me and see; a ghost does not have flesh and bones, as you see I have.”

⁴⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and feet.

⁴¹ And while they still did not believe it because of **joy and amazement**, he asked them, “Do you have anything here to eat?”

⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate it in their presence.

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Going from death and life

Why were they troubled? Why did they have doubts?

- Maybe they thought:
 - Jesus went alive to be with God
 - "Enoch walked faithfully with God; **then he was no more, because God took him away.**" *Genesis 5:24*
 - "As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and **Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind.**" *2 Kings 2:11*
 - Jesus was like Moses and Elijah in the Transfiguration:
 - **maybe just a spirit** and no longer flesh and bone
- **But this was different...**

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Going from death and life

The radical difference in Jesus:

- Resurrection is far greater than...
 - resuscitation (the body living again)
 - the spirit living on while the body is lost
- The Son of God stays human forever
- Our humanity will not be discarded, but will be made glorious
 - Our bodies are not merely containers for our spirits
 - So feeding the poor, healing the sick, and giving justice to the oppressed is a deeply Christian thing to do
- **Jesus proved to them His resurrection to a glorified body**

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Luke 24:44-49

⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: **Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me** in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will **suffer and rise from the dead on the third day,** ⁴⁷ and **repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations,** beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

The promises of Scripture: 1) Messiah's death and resurrection
2) Forgiveness in Jesus preached to all nations

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Prediction or Prophecy

Prediction: this is what someone 'knows' will happen

– A prophet is someone who can see the future accurately

Prophecy: this is what God promises will happen

– God's prophets **proclaim God's promises**

- God doesn't **predict** the future
- God **makes** the future
 1. Messiah's death and resurrection
 2. Forgiveness in Jesus proclaimed to all nations

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Luke 24:50-53

⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

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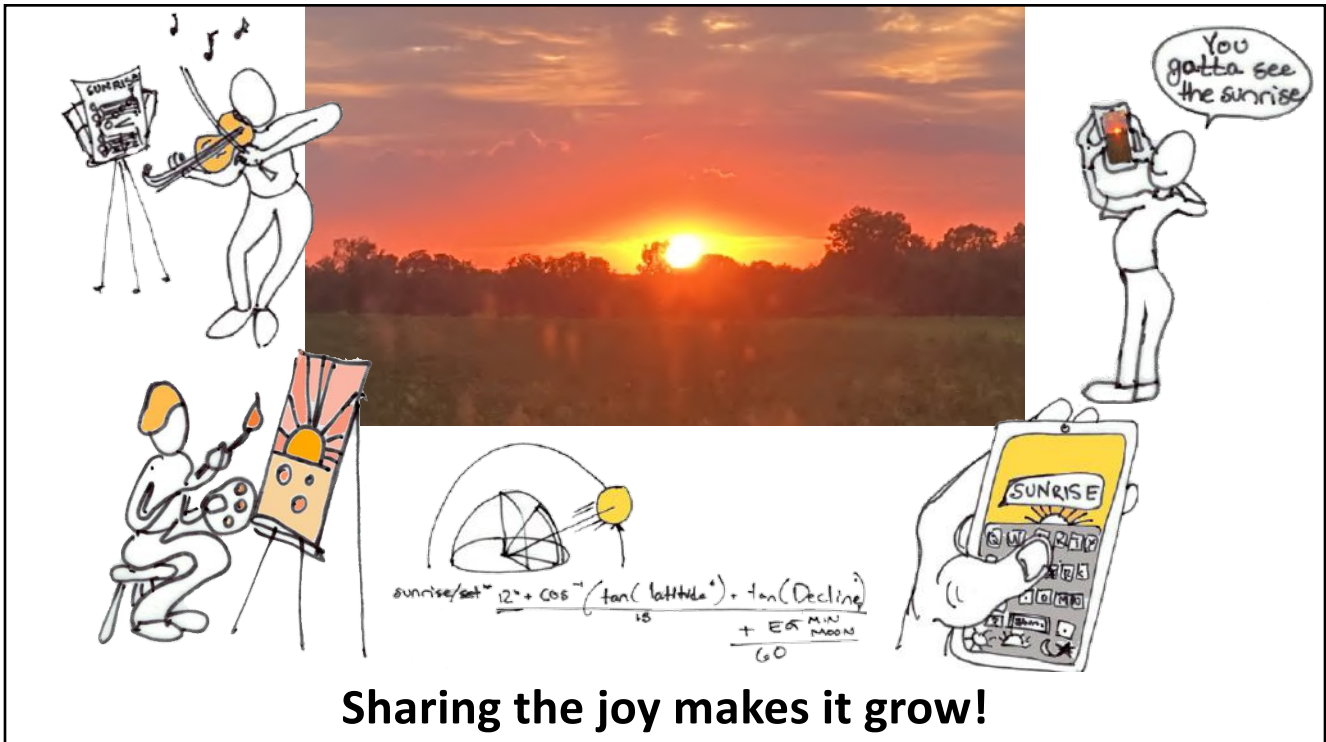
The Big Idea

God **promised** that His people
empowered by His Spirit
will proclaim to all peoples
the Good News of whole-being joy and life (instead of death)
through repentance in Jesus' name

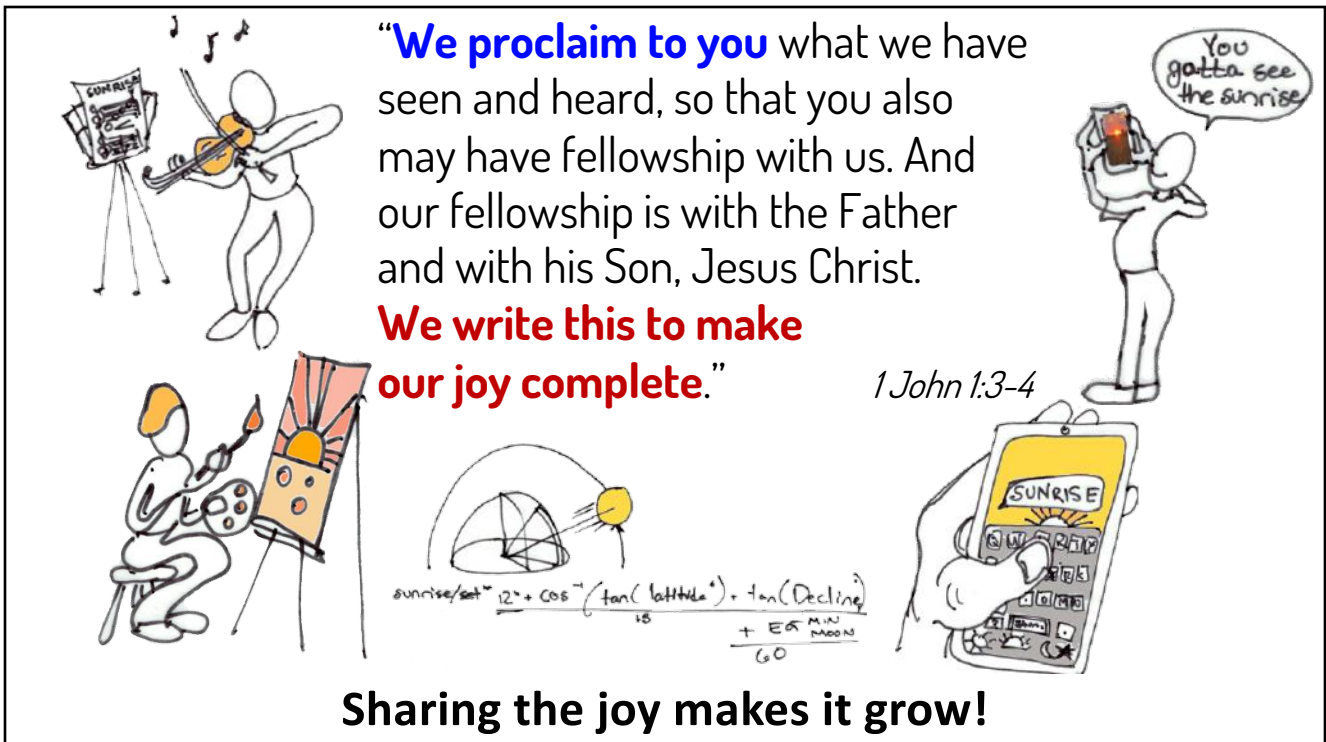
Jesus did not add world missions. **It was always there!**

“It is too small a thing for you to be my servant
to restore the tribes of Jacob
and bring back those of Israel I have kept.
I will also make you a light for the Gentiles,
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.” *Isaiah 49:6*

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The Big Idea

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Application

Rejoice! and worship Jesus!

- Jesus did what no one else and nothing else could do
 - He replaced sin and death
(all the mess of our lives and the world)
with flourishing life and peace
 - **What mess in the world bothers you?**
- Jesus gives this life to all who will trust in Him
 - As a gift to people like us **with all our mess**
 - **What mess in you bothers you?**
- **All other joys and victories are nothing in comparison!**

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Application

Rejoice! and worship Jesus!

Proclaim Jesus to every corner of earth

- Be a part of God fulfilling His promise
 - “For this is what the Lord has **commanded** us:
‘I have made you a light for the Gentiles.’” *Acts 13:47*

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Application

Rejoice! and worship Jesus!

Proclaim Jesus to every corner of earth

- **Near & Far**
 - After rescuing the man called Legion, Jesus said: “**Return home and tell** how much God has done for you.’ So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.”
Luke 8:39
 - Tell our family, our neighbors, our co-workers, our fellow students, the people we interact with, our acquaintances, ...
 - **Tell “how much God has done for you”**
 - Share your joy

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Application

Rejoice! and worship Jesus!

Proclaim Jesus to every corner of earth

8 billion people...

- Near & **Far**
 - “It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel **where Christ was not known**...as it is written: “Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand.” *Romans 15:20-21*
 - 33% of the world calls themselves “Christian”
 - 38% of the world has access to Christians and to Christianity
 - 29% of the world does not (mainly Muslim and Hindu)
 - **This is a huge need! → pray, give, send, go**

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Application

Rejoice! and worship Jesus!

Proclaim Jesus to every corner of earth

- Near & Far
- **By the Spirit**
 - In the witnesses
 - **“You will receive power** when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and **you will be my witnesses**” *Acts 1:8*
 - In those who hear
 - **Jesus “opened their minds** so they could understand” *Luke 24:45*

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Application

Rejoice! and worship Jesus!

Proclaim Jesus to every corner of earth

- Near & Far
- By the Spirit
- **Together**
 - Our congregation:
 - a team that does different parts of the same task
 - “Tell how much God has done for you”
 - And join together with others who can share in ways you can’t
 - God’s people throughout the globe

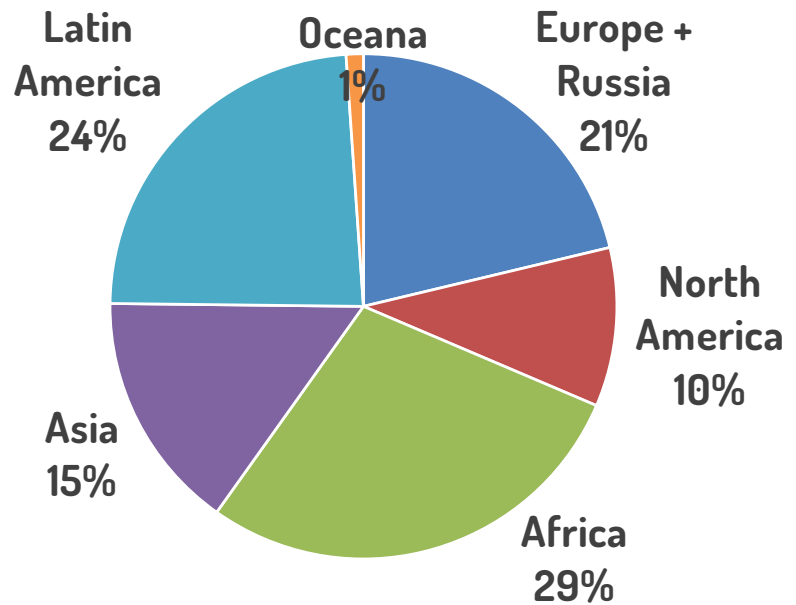
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Global Christians

We are to work together

Each contributing in the ways we can

Each receiving what the others can give



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Application

Rejoice! and worship Jesus!

Proclaim Jesus to every corner of earth

This Advent

- Is Jesus the one and only true source of Joy?
- **Then tell someone** why Christmas is a time of great joy!
 - Pray
 - Plan
 - Act
 - **Thanksgiving:** tell what God has done for you
- **Give** toward taking the Gospel to unreached peoples

“Christians, like other people, tend to get into ruts that meander with the path of least resistance.”



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The Big Idea

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through repentance in Jesus' name

The end of Luke is the beginning of the church

It is possible to do evangelism & missions very poorly

That must never stop us from doing it the best we can
empowered by the Spirit of God!

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“We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. **We write this to make our joy complete.**”

1 John 1:3-4

Let's increase our joy in Jesus by sharing our joy in Jesus